

A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR COLLECTING DIVERSE DATA  
TYPES WITHIN A MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESSING  
THE DIVERSE DATA TYPES THROUGH A NETWORK PORTAL

5      ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

10      The present invention provides a system for dynamically publishing  
diverse data in a manufacturing environment. This system comprises diverse  
data sources from which raw data is gathered. Translators then translate the raw  
data into a user-specified format. The translated raw data is then loaded into an  
application server. A summarization engine indexes the translated raw data and  
maintains the index within a relational database. This data is then navigable by a  
user interface from which a user inputs a request for data. Software instructions  
executed by the application server retrieve and display the translated raw data  
relating to the requested data.

15      Additional embodiments incorporate both analysis tools coupled to the  
application server operable to perform analysis and visualization tools to visualize  
the translated raw data relating to the requested data via the user interface.